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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/598,557	06/21/2000	Jeffrey G. Bingham	10001261-1	6684

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EXAMINER

WALLERSON, MARK E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2626

DATE MAILED: 09/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/598,557

Applicant(s)

BINGHAM ET AL.

Examiner

Mark E. Wallerson

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 May 2004.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-18 and 20-39 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-18 and 20-39 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

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Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

PLEASE NOTE THAT A NEW EXAMINER HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THIS APPLICATION.

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: amendment filed on 5/3/04.
2. This application has been reconsidered. Claims 1-13, 15-18, and 20-39 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claim 27, “a first formation” and “a second formation” are unclear.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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2. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mayer et al (Mayer) (U. S. 5,746,528).

With respect to claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12, 15, 18, 20, 31, and 32, Mayer discloses a media tray (123) with a media support surface (figure 1) and a media edge registration surface (column 6, lines 24-40); a removable media holder (201) contacting the media support surface (figure 1), and the holder defining a media receptacle above the lower portion (figure 2A), and having a lateral opening facing the registration surface (figure 2B).

With respect to claim 2, Mayer discloses the media tray is sized to receive letter sized media and the holder is sized to receive smaller media (cut-sheets) (column 2, lines 16-26).

With regard to claim 3, Mayer discloses the media tray has a first portion contained in a printer body (figure 1) and a second portion extending from the printer body (figure 1), wherein the media receptacle is received in the first portion (column 2, lines 16-26), wherein the holder has a handle (221) extending from the receptacle and occupying the second portion of the tray (figure 1).

With respect to claims 6, and 13, Mayer discloses the registration elements define an elongated line of contact (206).

With regard to claims 8, 9, 16, and 17, Mayer discloses the edge registration element is movable relative to the holder (column 5, lines 32-40).

With respect to claims 10, 21, 22, 23, and 38, Mayer discloses clamps (503 and 505) for securing the media.

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With regard to claims 24, 25, and 26, Mayer discloses a first holder registration surface (303) extending parallel to the media edge registration surface, and a registration ridge coupled to the holder and configured to slide along the first holder registration surface during movement of the holder relative to the tray (column 8, lines 6-50).

With respect to claims 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, and 39, Mayer discloses a media edge registration surface (figure 3B); a holder (201) movable along the media edge registration surface, the holder including a floor (203), a first wall (211) facing the edge registration surface and movable towards and away from the edge registration surface, and a second wall (231) engaging the edges of the media.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark E. Wallerson whose telephone number is (703) 305-8581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday - 6:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on (703) 305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mark E. Wallerson

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Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2626

MARK WALLERSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Wallerson', is written over the printed name and title.